



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/676,025

10/02/2003

Ki-Keon Yeom

1572.1147

6454

21171

7590

04/26/2007

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

04/26/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/676,025

Applicant(s)

YEOM ET AL.

Examiner

Paul D. Kim

Art Unit

3729

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5,6,8,10,15,16, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,7,9 and 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

- A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/6/2007 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The limitation "a collet which alternatively grabs and releases the hub unit" as recited in line 3 was not described in the specification as originally filed and appears to be new matter. According to the specification in paragraphs [0029] and [0033], the collet grabs or relieves the hub unit. There is no such limitation to grab and release the hub unit alternatively.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Guthrie et al.

Guthrie et al. teach a disk centering device comprising: a base plate (430); a chuck (450) which is installed on the base plate to grab a hub unit as shown in Fig. 4; the hub unit (310) which is detachably engaged to the chuck (as per claim 19) and receives discs (210) to be stacked as shown in Fig. 3; disc pushers (614, 814, 920 as shown in Figs. 6 and 8-10) which are slidably provided outside the hub unit and include corresponding plate springs (614) which push circumferences of the discs and center the discs; supporting units (412) which support the corresponding plate springs with respect to the disc pushers so as to reinforce a restoring force of the plate springs (col. 6, line 32 to col. 7, line 6 and col. 11, lines 4-67); and a driving unit (1090A, 1090B and 1090C as shown in Fig. 10) which slides the disc pushers simultaneously (see also col. 4, line 12 to col. 13, line 22).

Re. Claims 3 and 15: The hub unit comprises a hub body (310), which is detachably engaged to the chuck and receives the discs and a hub cap (1050 as shown

Art Unit: 3729

in Fig. 10) which moves up or down to clamp the discs stacked with respect to the hub body.

Re. Claim 5: The disc pushers are provided in a radial direction relative to the hub unit.

Re. Claims 6 and 16: The disc pushers include first, second and third disc pushers, which are provided at intervals of 120 degrees with respect to the hub unit as shown in Fig. 4.

Re. Claim 8: The driving unit includes a motor having cylindrical actuators (not shown), which drive the corresponding disc pushers.

Re. Claim 10: a linear guide unit (1082 A, B as shown in Fig. 10) which mounts the disc pushers, wherein the linear guide unit slides the disc pushers according to the driving unit.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 2, 4, 7, 9 and 11-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments filed 4/6/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that there is no description for the chuck "190" in Guthrie et al. mailed on 6/19/2007. Examiner traverses the argument that the item "190" is

Art Unit: 3729

described in Baun, not Guthrie et al. Applicant argues that the prior art of record of Guthrie et al. fails to disclose the claimed invention such as a chuck, which is capable of acting as a chuck. Examiner traverses the argument that the chuck unit, which is installed on the base plate in Guthrie et al., receives and holds the hub unit as shown in Fig. 4. In addition to that the hub unit is shown in Fig. 2B prior to install on the base plate.

Note: Definition for "Chuck"

An attachment for holding a workpiece or tool in a machine (Merriam-Webster 10<sup>th</sup> Edition).

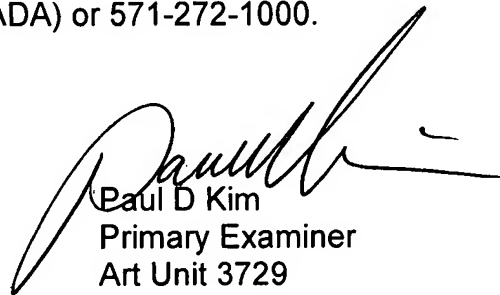
### ***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday between 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3729

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Paul D Kim  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3729